

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Rumania REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT New Building for Scanteia Propaganda DATE DISTR. 10 May 1953
Center

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NO. OF PAGES 1

REQUIREMENT NO. [REDACTED] 25X1

REFERENCES

25X1

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1. The new propaganda building for Scanteia is now almost finished. It will occupy an area about equal to that of the chateau at Versailles and is to be the center for all propaganda of the Rumanian Communist Party. It will also be the most important printing center of Southeastern Europe. Here will be printed many Cominform publications in all languages, some destined for use within the USSR, and within the Satellite states, others destined for use abroad.
2. The building has been a big expense for Rumanians. All the workers in the Rumanian Workers' Party were compelled to subscribe "voluntarily", a part of their pay for this purpose. The building took 284,000 tons of materials. Of this, 170,000 tons were sand and gravel, 18,000 tons were bricks, and 15,000 tons were lumber. It required 30,000,000 man hours of labor. Four cement works and two iron works gave all their production for a given period (exact length unknown) in order to produce the reinforced concrete needed. As the funds available were not sufficient, additional money was diverted from the budgets of other departments.
3. Various other construction enterprises had to be stopped entirely, so that this huge building could be promptly finished. Throughout the period while it was being built, there was a great scarcity of building materials in Bucharest for any other project. The problem of furnishing the Scanteia Building, now that it is finished, still remains; but everything is already prepared for this purpose.
4. Construction was carried out by Section No. 1, Bucharest, of the Ministerul Fortelor Armate. It was directed by the excellent architect, Campeanu (fmu), who was, however, under the strict surveillance of Soviet engineers.

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